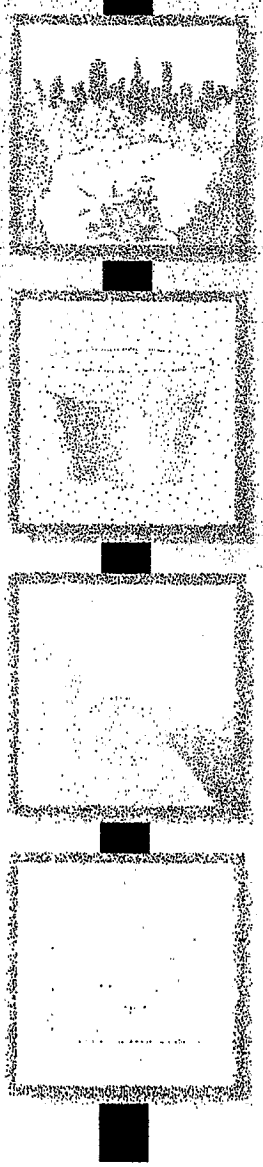

Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs

1999 Proposal Solicitation Package

DRAFT

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

E—030583

E-030583

1999 Proposal Solicitation

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program invites proposals for ecosystem restoration programs and projects to improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The objective of this PSP is to solicit and fund actions which address problems in the Bay-Delta ecosystem as identified in the Ecosystem Restoration Program and Strategic Plan.

Notice of Pre-Submittal Workshop

March 16, 1999, 9:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.
Resources Agency Auditorium
1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento

Shortly after the workshop, CALFED staff will provide a written response to common questions from all parties at the workshop or who have received this proposal solicitation package.

The 1999 PSP is soliciting proposals in eight topic areas:

- Fish Passage/Fish Screens
- River Geomorphology/ Floodplain Management and Habitat Restoration
- Local Watershed Stewardship
- Water Quality
- Improved Instream Flows
- Introduced Species
- Improved Fish Management and Hatchery Operations
- Environmental Education

Where to Submit Questions:

Questions can be submitted in writing until **March 15, 1999** to the:

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Office,
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento CA, 95814

or via email: **publica@water.ca.gov** or

Fax (916) 654-9780 Attn: Rebecca Fawver

Where to Submit Proposals (10 copies):

CALFED Bay Delta Office,
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento CA, 95814

Proposal Due Date: April 16, 1999

Proposals must be received by the CALFED office no later than **3:00p.m. on April 16, 1999**. Proposals received after this date and time will be returned unopened.

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E-030586

CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a consortium of State and Federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program's mission is to develop a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. The Program has four objectives:

CALFED Agencies

Federal agencies include: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Marine Fisheries Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Geological Survey, Western Area Power Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. State agencies include: CA Resources Agency, CA Department of Fish and Game, CA Department of Water Resources, CA Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Resources Control Board, and CA Department of Food and Agriculture.

Ecosystem Quality. Improve and increase aquatic and terrestrial habitats and improve ecological functions in the Bay-Delta to support sustainable populations of diverse and valuable plant and animal species.

Water Supply. Reduce the mismatch between Bay-Delta water supplies and current and projected beneficial uses dependent on the Bay-Delta system.

Water Quality. Provide good water quality for all beneficial uses.

Levee System Integrity. Reduce the risk to land use and associated economic activities, water supply, infrastructure, and the ecosystem from catastrophic failure of Delta levees.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR). This document was released to the public in March 1998, and may be obtained by contacting the CALFED Bay-Delta Program at (916) 657-2666, or by visiting the CALFED website at: **http://calfed.ca.gov**. All alternatives contain common programs to address ecosystem health, levee system integrity, water use efficiency, water transfers, water quality and watershed management. The common program to address ecosystem health is described in the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP), which is found as an appendix to the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

The goal of the ERP is to improve and increase aquatic and terrestrial habitats, and to improve ecological functions in the Bay-Delta to support sustainable populations of diverse and valuable plant and animal species. The ERP is a long-term ecosystem restoration program that will be implemented in phases over several decades, and incorporates the use of adaptive management. Adaptive management acknowledges that there is a need to constantly monitor the system and adapt the actions that are taken to restore ecological

health and improve water management. These adaptations will be necessary as conditions change and as more is learned about the system and how it responds to these actions. Applicants desiring additional information on the ERP or the CALFED Bay-Delta Program can contact the Program at (800) 900-3587 or (916) 657-2666, or by visiting the CALFED website at: **http://calfed.ca.gov**

The CALFED Restoration Coordination Program, which is sponsoring this solicitation, is designed as a short-term program to allow implementation of ecosystem restoration actions while the programmatic environmental documents are being revised and finalized. It is expected that the Restoration Coordination Program will become part of the overall ERP.

1.2 Background on Category III and Projects Funded to Date

The December 15, 1994, Bay-Delta Accord included a commitment to develop and fund non-flow related ecosystem restoration activities to improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. This funding source and commitment is commonly referred to as Category III. The Category III Steering Committee was formed to administer previous rounds of Category III funding. In 1996, the administration function for Category III funds was shifted to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program's Restoration Coordination Program, which receives input from the Ecosystem Roundtable, the Bay-Delta Advisory Council (BDAC) and the general public. The Ecosystem Roundtable is a subcommittee of BDAC specifically created to provide input from a broad cross section of stakeholder interests to the Restoration Coordination Program. The Bay-Delta Advisory Council consists of over 30 representative California stakeholder groups. BDAC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and provides input to the overall CALFED program.

The Restoration Coordination Program also has the responsibility of improving coordination among fish and wildlife restoration programs in the Central Valley. The administrative function was assigned to CALFED to ensure that Category III programs and projects were well integrated with other restoration programs and were consistent with the long-term ERP and the Strategic Plan for Ecosystem Restoration.

To date, the Category III program which is now administered under CALFED's Restoration Coordination Program, has received more than 600 proposals and has funded 173 projects for a total of approximately $192 million. Types of projects funded have included fish screens, fish ladders, land acquisition, habitat restoration and focused research and monitoring which are designed to provide information which will improve future restoration efforts. Previous funding sources have included contributions from the California Urban Water Agencies, Proposition 204 State bond funds and funding from the Federal Bay-Delta Act, and Federal EPA watershed funding. For 1999, the majority of funds available are from the Federal Bay-Delta Act, with additional contributions from State Proposition 204. For additional information on projects funded to date, visit the CALFED website at: **http://calfed.ca.gov** under the Ecosystem Restoration topic.

CHAPTER II - 1999 PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

2.1 1999 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP)

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program invites proposals for ecosystem restoration programs and projects to improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The objective of this PSP is to solicit and fund actions which address problems in the Bay-Delta ecosystem as identified in the ERP and Strategic Plan. Funding provided for this PSP will be directed toward programs and projects which reduce conflicts in the Bay-Delta Ecosystem, focus on high risk species and habitats, and provide broad ecosystem benefits. This proposal solicitation will award a maximum of $ *XXXXX*.

Applicants are requested to submit formal proposals following the instructions and format contained in this announcement. Proposals must be received at the CALFED Bay-Delta Program office, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155, Sacramento, California, 95814, by **3:00 p.m. on April 16, 1999.** Proposals received after this time will be returned unopened. Timely proposals will then be evaluated using the criteria and process described herein, leading to multiple awards in July 1999.

Proposals submitted, but not funded under previous proposal solicitations must be resubmitted in a format that is responsive to this PSP to receive consideration in the 1999 PSP process.

Because funding may be provided for only a portion of each submitted project, the applicant should clearly show which tasks are considered inseparable (e.g., if these tasks are omitted then the project cannot proceed at all). When CALFED funds portions of a project, there is no guarantee that the future phases of that project will be funded by CALFED or any other funding source. Future funding will depend on the progress of the project, the nature and extent of proposals competing at that time, ecological priorities, and theavailability of funds. Projects can be multi-year efforts if needed and appropriate. However, funds must be expended by a contractor no more than three years after execution of a contract.

When CALFED funds portions of a project, there is no guarantee that the future phases of that project will be funded by CALFED or any other funding source.

2.2 Who May Apply

Any private or public party with an interest in ecosystem restoration may apply. This includes, but is not limited to, State and Federal agencies, special districts, local government entities, universities, resource conservation districts, non-profit organizations, individuals, public/private joint ventures, and other organizations with an interest in ecosystem restoration. For the purposes of this PSP, there are seven types of applicant categories: (1) State agencies, (2) Universities, (3) Federal agencies, (4) Non-profit organizations, (5) Private (for profit) individual entities, (6) Local Government/Districts, and (7) Public/non-profit joint ventures. Applicants must indicate the category type on the proposal cover sheet (see Section 4.4).

Applicants who wish to collaborate on a project may elect to use a contractor-subcontractor relationship or a joint venture partnership. Contracts will only be executed with one applicant. The proposal needs to clearly indicate which applicant will sign the contract and the nature of the agreement between the other applicants, as discussed below.

The contractor-subcontractor relationship approach requires that the proposal discuss the nature of the relationship, the names of subcontractors, if known, and how the applicant will comply with competitive bidding requirements for selecting subcontractors. Specific subcontractors do not necessarily need to be listed in the proposal, except to highlight the qualifications of the proposed team for evaluation by the Technical Review Panel. Some subcontractors may not be known until after the proposal has been selected for funding, and a subcontract has been put out for bid. The estimated costs for subcontract work, and any necessary overhead for managing subcontractors, must be included in the proposal.

Applicants that are joint venture partnerships must identify one partner as the contracting party responsible for payments, reporting, and accounting. The proposal must include a detailed description of how the partners will operate, including the allocation of decision-making authority and liability. The proposals should identify the tasks to be performed by the different entities and the costs at each task level.

2.3 Geographic Scope

Projects and programs must generally be within the CALFED ERP study area which includes the Bay-Delta and its tributary watersheds (See map in Attachment A). This proposal solicitation package will emphasize projects and programs in the lower watershed areas, the Delta, and the North San Francisco Bay. Projects and programs in the South San Francisco Bay, Central San Francisco Bay, and upper watersheds including the Trinity River will be considered for funding if the applicant can demonstrate a direct benefit to the CALFED priority species and habitats. Proposals for projects outside of the geographic scope of the ERP study area will not be considered for funding.

2.4 Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality

All applicants are subject to State and Federal conflict of interest laws. Failure to comply with these laws, including business and financial disclosure provisions, will result in the proposal being rejected and any subsequent contract being declared void. Other legal action may also be taken. Accordingly, before submitting a proposal, applicants are urged to seek legal counsel regarding potential conflict of interest concerns that they may have and requirements for disclosure. Applicable statutes include, but are not limited to, Government Code Section 1090, and Public Contract Code 10410 and 10411 for State conflict of interest requirements.

Applicants should take note that their submission of a proposal will waive their rights to the confidentiality of that proposal. As explained in Section 2.5, Proposal Selection Process, each proposal will be reviewed by a Technical Review Panel and the 1999 Integration Panel. Upon completion of the Integration Panel's review, all proposals will be made available for public review by the Ecosystem Roundtable and the Bay-Delta Advisory Council. The Technical Review Panel's scoring will also become available to the public. Due to the legally mandated public disclosure requirements of these two entities, any proposal may be reviewed and discussed by members of the public. When the proposal application is signed, privacy rights as well as other confidentiality protections afforded by law will be waived.

Applicants should note that their submission of a proposal will waive their rights to confidentiality of that proposal.

Applicants should also be aware that certain State or Federal agencies may submit proposals

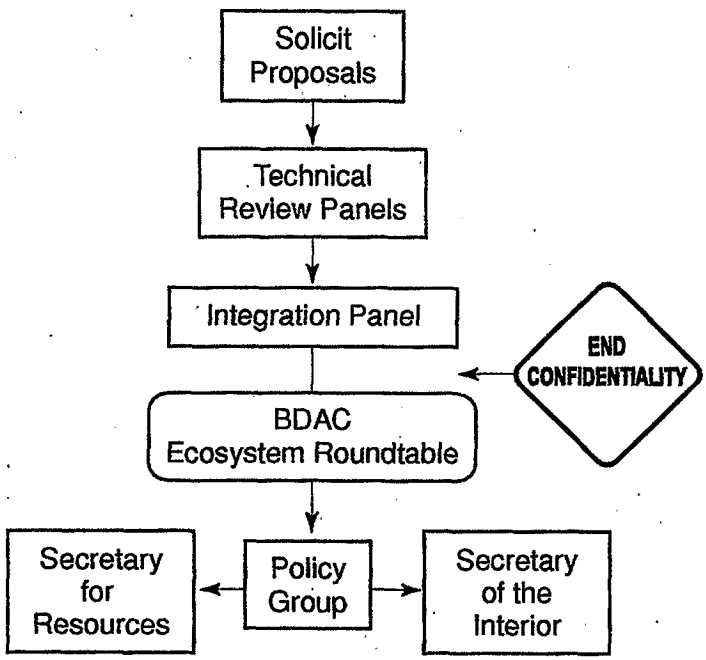
that will compete against their proposal, and employees of those agencies may sit on the Technical Review Panels or the Integration Panel that reviews and recommend which proposals to accept and fund. Members of these panels are subject to conflict of interest provisions (See Attachment E for conflict of interest requirements).

2.5 Proposal Selection Process

Figure 1 is a flow chart of the proposal selection process. Proposals will be reviewed using a two-step technical evaluation. First, Technical Review Panels made up of State, Federal and non-agency representatives with the necessary expertise will be formed to evaluate and score proposals submitted under each topic. The panels will use the standard criteria described in Section 2.6 to evaluate and score proposals. The Technical Review Panels will be held to certain conflict of interest rules and requirements as described in Attachment F.

Figure 1

1999 Proposal Selection Process



The second part of the evaluation process involves the 1999 Integration Panel, which is comprised of State and Federal agency technical staff and non-agency technical representatives. The Integration Panel also includes individuals involved from other funding sources such as the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA). Status of ongoing restoration activities and information from the Ecosystem Restoration Program are used as basic information in the review process. The Integration Panel then evaluates recommendations from the Technical Review Panels for all qualified proposals received, and identifies any conflicts or synergy between Technical Review Panel recommendations for each topic area, checks for duplicate proposals submitted under other topics, identifies unmet restoration needs, and assures the overall integrity of the technical review process.

The Integration Panel forwards a recommended package of qualified proposals, subject to funding availability. All submitted proposals and evaluation scores become public information and will be available for review after the 1999 Integration Panel completes its review.

Integration Panel recommendations for funding will be reviewed by the Ecosystem Roundtable and the Bay-Delta Advisory Council (BDAC). The CALFED member agencies, acting through the CALFED Policy Group, will make final funding recommendations to the Secretary for Resources and the Secretary of Interior.

All funding recommendations will be coordinated with other appropriate funding sources such as CVPIA, and programs administered through other agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Accordingly, the CALFED funding recommendations may identify co-funding or alternative funding options for projects.

It is anticipated that funding decisions will be made by July, 1999. Preparation of contracts or cooperative agreements will begin as soon as projects are approved, but depending on the complexity of each contract and the readiness of the applicant, it may take considerable time (from two months up to a year or more) to develop and finalize the contracts or cooperative agreements for the successful proposals. **Applicants should not commence work on their projects until a funding agreement is signed. Work performed prior to the signing of a funding agreement is done at the risk of the applicant and without expectation of reimbursement.** Funding agreements are not final until signed by the appropriate contracting agency.

2.6 Evaluation Criteria

Criteria for Formal Proposal Evaluation. To be eligible for funding, all proposals must benefit one or more of the priority species or habitats listed in Section 3.1. Formal proposals which meet the minimum requirements will be evaluated using standard criteria. Scores for each of the four criteria will typically range from zero to twenty-five, although criteria may be weighted differently for different topics. The total possible points a proposal can receive is 100. A proposal must receive a score of at least 60 out of 100 to be eligible for funding in this funding cycle. However, a score above 60 does not automatically ensure funding.

Proposals are evaluated and assigned scores based on how well they are expected to perform under each of the standard criteria. The Technical Review Panels may opt to vary the standard number of points assigned for each criteria by proposal category. For example, proposals for local watershed stewardship and education are likely to place a greater emphasis on local involvement and applicant's ability than other proposal categories. Proposals for fish screens place a greater emphasis on cost sharing. ***(Develop weighting table)***

In addition, the Integration Panel will review the Technical Review Panel recommendations for synergy and conflict. This

A key function of the Integration Panel is to review the Technical Review Panel recommendations for synergy and conflict. This may result in funding of proposals with lower Technical Review Panel scores than other higher scoring projects which were not recommended for funding.

may result in a recommendation for funding of proposals with lower Technical Review Panel scores than other higher scoring projects which were not selected for funding. For example, two proposals would have synergy if one is a fish passage project on a stream that opened up habitat in the upper watershed and the second is a proposal to develop a watershed plan and implement restoration activities that would benefit the fish. An example of conflict could be if one proposal is to clear vegetation for flood control purposes while another proposes to actively plant to provide shaded riverine aquatic habitat for fish species.

Considerations for each criteria are briefly described below. Additional guidance is provided in Section 4.3, Proposal Format and Content.

Ecological/ Biological and Other Related Benefits (25 Points)

The proposal identifies the scientific hypothesis/questions to be evaluated through the project. It discusses the ecological and biological effectiveness of the proposal by addressing the identified stressors and species or habitats which will benefit. It explains how the project relates to the ERP and Strategic Plan, and how the project relates to other previously funded projects or to previously funded phases of a current project. The proposal explains whether the project also provides benefits for, or conflicts with, other CALFED objectives including water quality, water supply reliability and levee system integrity.

Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting (25 Points)

The proposal identifies the monitoring parameters, data collection approach and data evaluation approach for each hypothesis/question to be addressed. It discusses how the monitoring is coordinated with existing and/or anticipated monitoring programs. The proposal clearly identifies details on financial reporting and assessment of the project for each identified task and/or phase.

Feasibility and Local Involvement (25 Points)

The proposal demonstrates an understanding of the problems, is sound in its technical approach, has evaluated reasonable options, and demonstrates a connection with ongoing work. The proposal is ready to be funded and constraints are identified that could impact the schedule and implementability of the project, including environmental documentation needs.

The proposal demonstrates local support or involvement for the proposal including participation by the appropriate State and Federal agencies and local governments. The proposal is coordinated with, or supported by, ongoing regional efforts and applicable local watershed management plan. Affected parties (e.g. landowners) are involved or have been notified of the proposal. Local benefits and impacts are identified.

The proposal describes the applicant's capabilities, experience, and record of past performance as well as experience and qualifications of key personnel.

Cost and Cost Sharing (25 Points)

The proposal clearly describes budgeted costs (including direct and indirect costs) and

identifies other funding commitments or cost-share requirements. The proposal costs seem reasonable as compared to other similar proposals. Indirect overhead costs are clearly identified. To the extent feasible, the proposal leverages other funding sources to support restoration activities. Where used as a cost-share, in-kind services are clearly documented.

2.7 Schedule

February 16, 1999	PSP Available to the Public
March 15, 1999	Last day to submit written questions to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program
March 16, 1999	Public Pre-Submittal Workshop, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, Resources Agency Auditorium, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento
April 16, 1999	Proposal Solicitation Period Closes. (Applications must be received at the CALFED office 1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA by 3:00 pm)
Beginning of June, 1999	Technical Review Panels scoring and Integration Panel review and recommendations complete. Confidentiality Ends.
June, 1999	Present Recommendations to Ecosystem Roundtable and BDAC
End of June, 1999	CALFED Policy Group Makes Final Recommendations
July, 1999	Secretary for Resources/Interior Approve Selections

CHAPTER III - 1999 ACTION PLAN

Development of this 1999 Action Plan included use of the Funding Priorities outlined in Section 3.1, the ERP draft Stage 1 Action List, results of three regional meetings, and information on previously funded projects. In the 1999 Action Plan, the Integration Panel identifies three categories of actions: designated actions(Section 3.2), focused actions (Section 3.3), and other beneficial actions (Section 3.4).

3.1 1999 Funding Priorities

The 1999 funding priorities reflect the goals identified in the draft Strategic Plan for Ecosystem Restoration. Rehabilitating the natural capacity and functional connectivity of the Bay-Delta estuary and its watershed will be the preferred method for achieving recovery and continued conservation of native species and for supporting safe, sustainable commercial and recreational fish and wildlife harvest. Long-term success of ecological rehabilitation will require immediate protection or restoration of key functional habitat types and their connectivity. Proposals for projects should be designed to address the following Strategic Plan Goals:

1. Achieve recovery of at-risk native species dependent on the Delta and Suisun Bay as the first step toward establishing large, self-sustaining populations of these species;

   support similar recovery of at-risk native species in San Francisco Bay and the watershed above the estuary; and

   minimize the need for future endangered species listings by reversing downward population trends of native species that are not listed.

2. Rehabilitate natural processes in the Bay-Delta system to support, with minimal ongoing human intervention, natural aquatic and associated terrestrial biotic communities, in ways that favor native members of those communities.

3. Maintain and enhance populations of selected species for sustainable commercial and recreational harvest, consistent with goals 1 and 2.

4. Protect or restore functional habitat types throughout the watershed for public values such as recreation, scientific research and aesthetics.

5. Prevent establishment of additional non-native species and reduce the negative biological and economic impacts of established non-native species.

6. Improve and maintain water and sediment quality to eliminate, to the extent possible, toxic impacts on organisms in the system, including humans.

Each of these goals has equal priority, and the intent is that actions be identified to address

each of the six goals. In many cases, an action which addresses goal 1 will also address goal 2.

Proposals should attempt to address multiple goals. However, in some cases, actions may be funded that only address one of the six goals. There may be a very specific problem, such as entrainment, for a listed species which can be solved only through an action, such as a fish screen, which neither results in habitat protection or in rehabilitation of the natural system. There could also be an area where the natural system is in need of rehabilitation, such as the upper watersheds, where there is a level of uncertainty about the direct benefit of an action to the priority species.

The CALFED Management Team has recommended that at least 75 % of the funding be focused on actions which benefit the highest priority species identified under Goal 1 which are the listed fish species which depend on the Delta.

There is broad recognition that the proposed actions will be implemented through adaptive management, which by definition, requires moving forward in the face of scientific uncertainty and learning from the actions taken. This will require that actions be categorized by the level of scientific uncertainty and where uncertainty is high, actions be taken in recognition of that uncertainty. This may involve focused research, pilot projects, or other steps prior to broad implementation.

While the actions to be taken based on these priorities are primarily for the benefit of the ecosystem, they can also provide benefits for other CALFED objectives including water quality, levee system reliability, and water supply reliability. Emphasis will be placed on proposals which provide multiple benefits.

Goal 1 - Native species recovery and conservation. The major issue in the Bay-Delta that led to the creation of CALFED, centered on the conflicts between water management and the protection and recovery of listed species. Recovery of listed fish species dependent on the Delta and Suisun Bay and adversely affected by water management is a high priority. These species include:

- Delta smelt
- Splittail
- Chinook salmon (all races)
- Steelhead trout
- Longfin smelt

Additional priority will be given to support recovery of other listed water-, wetland-, and riparian-dependent species in the Bay-Delta Estuary and its watershed, adversely affected by water management. These species include but are not limited to:

- Delta special status plant species (Suisun thistle, soft bird's-beak, Mason's lilaeopsis, Delta button-celery)
- California red-legged frog
- Giant garter snake
- California freshwater shrimp
- Swainson's hawk
- Clapper rail
- California black rail

- Greater sandhill crane
- Western yellow-billed cuckoo
- Bank swallow
- Salt marsh harvest mouse
- Riparian brush rabbit
- Riparian woodrat
- Aleutian Canada goose
- Valley elderberry longhorn beetle

Consideration will also be given for continued conservation of water-, riparian-, and wetland-dependent native species in the Bay-Delta Estuary and its watershed which, to some degree, are or have the potential to be adversely affected by water management. These species include candidate species and species of special concern.

In the near term, species in the Bay-Delta watershed that are not water, wetland, or riparian dependant will not be identified as a priority. However, if a project that produces benefits for a priority species also provides benefits for other listed species, it will receive preferential consideration. Examples include San Joaquin kit fox and the Bakersfield cactus.

Goal 2 - Rehabilitation and Protection of Natural Processes Rehabilitating the natural capacity of the Bay-Delta estuary and its watershed and protecting and restoring a range of functional habitat types will require that proposals be evaluated to ensure that they contribute toward the goals listed above. It will also be necessary to evaluate individual proposals in the context of other actions to ensure that all important ecological attributes have been addressed and the resulting mosaic of habitats are appropriately connected and distributed, and are of sufficient size, configuration, and quality. The following ecological guidelines can guide restoration efforts:

- Emphasize ecosystem processes and functions that increase and sustain target habitats and species.

- When feasible, emphasize restoration of ecosystem processes using natural self-sustaining methods.

- Emphasize protection and enhancement of existing habitats and processes over restoration or creation.

- Emphasize actions that provide multiple benefits to species, habitats, and processes

- Give consideration to projects designed to investigate problems for which causes and remedies remain uncertain.

- Recognize the level of scientific uncertainty associated with various actions and move forward with them appropriately.

- Recognize and incorporate scientific uncertainty into planning decisions. As much as possible, design and treat management actions as experiments that will allow specific hypotheses to be tested under field conditions.

- Above all, implement actions as part of adaptive management so that future actions can build on actions implemented today.

Ecological processes are complex interactions that establish and sustain whole ecological systems. The stability and sustainability of such processes determine in large part the value and productivity of affected ecological systems. The most effective and enduring restoration and maintenance of the Bay-Delta ecosystem is therefore one that stabilizes, restores and maintains the underlying ecological processes.

Because ecological processes are descriptions of interactions among watershed constituents and each constituent interacts with more than one other constituent, most ecological processes are not completely separable from other ecological processes. The ecological processes most affecting the Bay-Delta ecosystem include:

Central Valley Streamflows
Natural Sediment Supply
Stream Meander
Natural Floodplains and Flood Processes
Central Valley Stream Temperatures
Bay-Delta Hydraulics
Bay-Delta Aquatic Foodweb
Upper Watershed Processes

Goal 3 - Recreational and commercial species. Priorities for species that are important for use by humans are guided by the need to provide for sustainable harvest and safe consumption. Generally species that have experienced sharp declines or which have problems with body burden contaminants which cause human health concerns were identified as of equal importance.

Striped bass and sturgeon are species that would be identified as a priority under either approach because there have been both population declines and evidence of contamination. Northern pintail, salmon and steelhead are species that would be a priority because population declines have sharply limited opportunities for consumptive use.

Other species such as American shad and waterfowl have also experienced population declines which have limited harvest opportunities. Populations of waterfowl that are particulary sensitive to water management and/or whose body burdens pose health risks to human consumers will be given a higher priority. Health warnings for human consumption of waterfowl species have been identified for all species in the Grasslands area and for scaup and scoter species in Suisun Bay, San Pablo Bay and San Francisco Bay. Waterfowl species declines have been noted for species such as the northern pintail, and lesser scaup.

The CALFED Management Team has recommended that 80% of restoration funds should be for implementation of actions as opposed to other phases such as planning and research.

Goal 4 - Habitats. It is important to protect and restore large expanses of the major habitat types identified in the ERP and at least representative "samples" of other habitat types. Many direct benefits arise from protecting a wide array of habitats, including the recovery of endangered species and the production of economically important wild species

(e.g., fish, ducks). Equally important are the aesthetic values of natural landscapes containing mosaics of habitats. Additional ecosystem services provided by natural habitats, include purification of water and air, and delivery of nutrients to systems producing fish and other economically important aquatic organisms.

Goal 5 - Introduced Species. The introduction of new species into the Bay-Delta ecosystem is still occurring so frequently, and the potential for ecological damage by further invasions is so high, that the necessity for halting (not just reducing) further introductions needs to be emphasized. This problem needs to be dealt with quickly and directly because new invading species can negate the effects of millions of dollars spent on habitat or ecosystem restoration. However, control methods must be less harmful to native species than the ecological disruption caused by invading species.

Goal 6 - Water Quality. Toxic effects of adverse water quality are pervasive and incompletely understood. Developing the needed understanding has been identified as a distinct CALFED goal. This goal is being addressed through the CALFED Water Quality Program in close coordination with the ERP. Problems associated with toxic substances in the aquatic environment include persistent toxicants such as methyl mercury and PCBs, pesticides, naturally occurring toxic substances, sudden influxes of toxic materials, toxic accumulation in sediments, and impacts of other unknown substances.

3.2 Designated Actions

Designated actions are those actions that the Integration Panel feels are the highest priority, where it is clear which entity they want to complete the action, the action is likely to be implemented in FY 99, and the action typically builds on previously funded efforts. Many of these also include significant cost sharing from other restoration programs.

Designated actions are not automatically funded. For each, a proposal has been developed and reviewed by the Integration Panel, Ecosystem Roundtable, BDAC, and the Policy Group to ensure that it meets the needs of the program. A list of designated actions is provided in Table XX.

3.3 Focused Actions

This solicitation is requesting proposals under eight topic areas. Under some of these topic areas, the Integration Panel has identified focused actions. Focused actions are projects or proposals which represent a logical step forward in an ongoing effort to improve ecological health of the Bay-Delta and its tributary watersheds. Rather than putting out only a broad and unrestricted solicitation for 1999, it was believed that greater progress could be made by considering comprehensively the existing restoration work that is planned, underway or completed and identifying actions which could make the greatest steps toward furthering the progress which has already been made. Because a project has been identified as a focused action does not mean it will be automatically funded. Focused actions and other beneficial actions (Sections 3.3 and 3.4) will receive equal consideration during the evaluation process.

The 1999 PSP is soliciting proposals in eight topic areas:

- Fish Passage/Fish Screens
- River Geomorphology/ Floodplain Management and Habitat Restoration
- Local Watershed Stewardship
- Water Quality
- Improved Instream Flows
- Introduced Species
- Improved Fish Management and Hatchery Operations
- Environmental Education

The following is a description of each topic area and a list of focused actions which may be considered for funding in 1999 by category.

Fish Passage/Fish Screens

Background: In recent years, fisheries resources have declined in California's Central Valley streams. Fishery declines are associated with a wide variety of factors, including habitat destruction, alteration of instream flows, construction of dams, and entrainment into water diversions. In many cases, high quality aquatic habitat exists upstream of agricultural and power diversions on tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. These diversion structures and dams block fish passage, and can adversely impact downstream migration. In addition to removal of dams, there may be other alternatives such as consolidation of existing structures that can reduce the number of fish passage facilities needed and may provide more ecological benefits than retaining all structures with traditional fish ladder and screening solutions.

There are a large number of relatively small diversions diverting water from the Suisun Marsh and the Delta. These smaller diversions have the potential to entrain juvenile fish, but there is relatively little data that can be used to identify where the biological benefits would be the greatest in a program to screen smaller diversions. Evaluations of alternative methods of preventing entrainment at larger diversions have not identified any effective solutions other than positive fish screens. However, when evaluating screening at smaller diversions under 25 cfs, there may be other techniques for preventing entrainment that could be cost effective in some situations.

Focused Actions:

Suisun Marsh. *Determine the potential biological importance of Suisun Marsh fish screens.* Currently, there is a conflict between the potential for listed fish species to be entrained and the need for water for wetlands management. Furthermore, there are significant questions that remain unanswered about the relative biological benefits of screening these diversions relative to diversions in other locations. Given the biological questions, CALFED has not funded new fish screens in the last few rounds of projects. Proposals should be for a study to determine the relative biological impacts of these types of diversions to assist decision-makers.

General Bay-Delta. *Evaluate the need to screen small diversions in the Delta.* Unlike in riverine environments where unscreened diversions may affect a large portion of fish, the benefits of screening small diversions throughout the Delta is unknown. An evaluation should be undertaken to identify diversion effects on species and locations in the Delta where screening small diversions is a high priority. Two general topics are recommended for consideration. Proposals should be for:

- A synthesis of existing information on entrainment in the Delta at small diversions; or

- An evaluation of entrainment effects at actual diversions if willing landowners can be identified. The proposal should document how locations are to be compared,

number of locations to be evaluated, and methods and techniques to be used to evaluate results. The proposal should also document how the results could be used to develop a method to assign priority to small unscreened diversions. The applicant should have written permission from the owner of any diversion where they propose to sample.

River Geomorphology, Floodplain Management and Habitat Restoration

Background: Dams have interrupted natural alluvial sediment transport processes, thus negatively impacting river channel morphology and the aquatic habitat available to native species. In some cases, rivers have responded to this lack of sustainable coarse-sediment supply with channel incision and bed-surface coarsening. In other cases, lack of channel-forming flows have allowed increased amounts of fine materials to be deposited. This reduces both the quantity and quality of spawning habitat available to native anadromous fish species and reduces food chain (e.g., benthic macroinvertebrate) production. In addition, sediment transport continuity has been interrupted in some areas due to the impacts of instream and floodplain aggregate and gold mining.

Encroachment by agricultural and urban development has restricted floodplains, which has lead to reduced riparian habitat and loss of shaded riverine aquatic habitat. In some cases, the landowners in the floodplain also face repeated flooding of their land with the resulting loss of agricultural revenue and loss of property. Opportunities now exist on many rivers which were heavily flooded in January 1997 to expand floodways and riparian corridors in flood-prone areas, thus providing greater flood management flexibility and concurrently benefitting the ecosystem.

Focused Actions:

East Delta Habitat Corridor. *Restore tidal marsh and riparian habitats along Georgiana Slough.* Georgiana Slough is a major migration corridor for salmon. Substantial losses to salmon occur in this area due to predation and entrainment. Proposals should address restoration along this important migration corridor. Proposals should be for design or implementation of projects and should include coordination with landowners and address flood control and recreational boating issues.

East Delta Habitat Corridor. *Restoration of in-channel islands.* Boat wakes have significantly reduced the quantity and quality of valuable in-channel island habitat. Planning and design work for demonstration projects on in-channel islands has been previously funded. Proposals should be for the next (construction) phase, if planning and design work is complete.

Suisun Marsh. *Restore tidal wetlands on Suisun Marsh and Van Sickle Island.* Restoration of tidal wetlands will provide habitat for native fishes, rare plants and wildlife. It will also expand the spatial extent of the low-salinity zone (zone of high biological productivity) to increase estuarine productivity. Proposals should be for tidal restoration projects in this area.

Central and West Delta. *Restore Frank's Tract to tidal marsh using clean dredge materials*

and natural sediment accretion in conjunction with the eradication and control of nuisance, introduced aquatic plants. Frank's Tract can be restored to the largest expanse of tidal wetlands in the Delta with no impact to agriculture. Frank's Tract levees were breached and the island has been flooded since the early 1900s. The subsided island is deep and provides warm-water habitat for predatory, non-native fish. The island bed must be elevated through a combination of dredge disposal, natural sediment accretion, and peat accumulation. Frank's Tract will be a functional component of the San Joaquin River corridor, a major fish rearing and migration area. Reclaiming the tract must also occur in conjunction with the eradication and control of nuisance, introduced aquatic plants for restoration to be most beneficial to native species. A study to evaluate the restoration of Frank's Tract was previously funded. Proposals should be for the second phase of previously funded proposal if there is a demonstrated readiness for the next phase of funding.

Tuolumne River. *Restore the sediment regime by relocating instream gravel mining operations and evaluating the need to augment gravel supplies.* The construction of dams and gravel mining in the active channel reduce the amount of gravel available to form important aquatic and riparian habitat. Since it is infeasible to reduce the effects of dams upon the sediment regime, it is critical to relocate instream gravel mining projects and evaluate the need and extent of gravel augmentation projects. Proposals should be for the development of a long-term sediment management program for the Tuolumne River.

Sacramento River. *Continue studies which address potential changes in hydrology, local economic impacts, and other issues associated with ongoing riparian restoration work.* The Sacramento River still meanders freely for nearly 50 miles between Red Bluff and Chico Landing, dynamically eroding existing banks while forming new banks. Continuation of the Upper Sacramento River Advisory Council's riparian habitat restoration program, SB 1086, to protect, enhance and restore the meander belt between Red Bluff and Chico Landing through the purchase of riparian land or conservation easements will help protect and expand the existing meander belt, thereby preserving or enhancing many of the ecological processes and habitats that support a diversity of plant, fish and wildlife species. In addition to the currently funded acquisition and restoration efforts, several studies have been suggested by the SB 1086 program to address potential changes in hydrology, local economic impacts, and other issues. Proposals should be related to issues identified by the SB 1086 program. These studies are important parts of the SB 1086 process and will address many local concerns.

American River. *Develop a corridor management plan.* A proposal to develop a corridor management plan for the lower American River would assist CALFED in determining what restoration actions to fund in this area.

Local Watershed Stewardship

Background: CALFED recognizes the importance of watershed stewardship as a component of the Bay-Delta solution, and wants to support watershed projects that are community-based, with active local leadership and the participation of diverse interests. The CALFED Watershed Management Coordination Program is working to encourage local watershed management activities that benefit all Delta system resources.

Focused Actions:

Butte Creek. *Implement actions in the watershed management plan developed for this area.* Excessive loads of fine sediment can degrade the spawning habitat and suffocate the incubating eggs of anadromous fish. It can also reduce the production of aquatic invertebrates, which are an important part of the food web. Carefully planned land use activities can help reduce untimely or excessive pulses of fine sediment into the stream channel. Restoring riparian habitat in a watershed can also help reduce the erosion and transport of fine sediments into the stream channel. Develop a plan to control the erosion and transport of fine sediments to the stream channel, to restore riparian habitat, enhance base flows, and reduce water temperatures. Proposals should focus on implementation of watershed restoration measures developed in a watershed plan previously funded by Category III and CVPIA.

Water Quality

Background: Adverse water quality may affect ecological habitats and species important to the Bay-Delta. For example: reductions in dissolved oxygen may block upstream migration of anadromous fish and may impact survivability of other resident species of aquatic organisms. Selenium can be highly toxic to aquatic life at relatively low concentrations, but is also an essential trace nutrient for many aquatic and terrestrial species Real-time water quality management could make multiple use of water thatis already being stored or released for other purposes. Real-time water quality management system, along with pollutant load reduction, could allow continued discharge of salt from agricultural lands and wetlands while minimizing the impacts on the SJR and minimizing violations of water quality objectives.

Since 1986, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Department of Fish and Game have been testing the surface waters of the Central Valley for toxicity. Future actions should incorporate available information and explain how existing information needs will be met.

Focused Actions:

San Joaquin River Near the City of Stockton. *Evaluate sources of oxygen depleting substances being discharged to the San Joaquin River and their individual contributions to the dissolved oxygen impairment of the River.* Evaluation should include the source or group of sources, estimation of contribution to impairment, feasibility of treatment or removal or the source, estimation of cost for treatment or removal, links to any other portion of the CALFED Water Quality Program, and links to portions of the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Proposals should include coordination with representatives from agencies such as the City of Stockton, the Port of Stockton, other municipalities up stream of Stockton, The Army Corps of Engineers, The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Department of Fish and Game, and CALFED Water Quality Program. Several studies have already been conducted in the area and should not be duplicated.

San Joaquin River, the Delta, and tributaries in the target area; western side of the San Joaquin Valley, known as the Westlands and Grasslands areas. *Evaluate effectiveness of treatment systems to economically remove selenium from discharges to the Delta, the San Joaquin River and tributaries.* Treatment systems could include, but are not limited to, membrane filtration, whole farm management systems, thin film evaporators, and solar evaporators.

Emphasis should be placed expanding on work that has already been done. The goal of the evaluations (including those that have already been completed) is to determine cost effective measures that many farmers could implement, reduce selenium loads to the ecosystem , and result in long term productivity of the land.

Proposals should include coordination with agencies and with drainage and irrigation districts that are studying various aspects of selenium problems in the area. Some of those agencies are; US Department of Agriculture, California Department of Food and Agriculture, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service and Geological Survey), California Resources Agency (Departments of Fish and Game and Water Resources), California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, and individual drainage districts within the area.

Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and the Delta. *Identify toxic agents in previously toxic samples, perform toxicity testing in tributaries other than the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, perform toxicity testing in other critical Delta areas not previously sampled, or develop toxicity testing methods using Delta species which could yield increased protection for Delta aquatic organisms.*

Proposals must extend upon and not duplicate the work of The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, The Department of Fish and Game, individual watershed groups and coordinated testing programs (such as the Sacramento River Watershed Group and the Sacramento Coordinated Testing Program), and private environmental protection groups such as Delta-Keeper.

San Joaquin River Corridor. *Institute improvements for Real-Time Management of the assimilative capacity of the San Joaquin River.* Coordinate activities with San Joaquin River Management Program, Water Quality Subcommittee (SJRMP-WQS) (consisting of staff from DWR, CVRWQCB and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USGS, and USBR). Flow and stage data are available through DWR, the USBR and the USGS. The California Data Exchange Center, a section within DWR's Division of Flood Management, provides river stage, flood warning, and other information on a real-time basis. The real-time, water quality management system under development for the SJR Basin takes advantage of some of the features of the existing hydrologic data acquisition and forecasting programs. Proposals should include one or more of the following unique aspects of the planned real-time, water quality management system that are not replicated by current programs:

1. Use of water quality sensors: currently only EC, temperature and pH are continuously logged, although there are a number of constituents of concern within California's river systems;

2. A continuous and integrated system of data error checking and validation will need

to be accepted through a Regional Board hearing process before the data are used for regulatory purposes;

3. Addition of control systems such as detention basins, or controls on drain outlets would be needed that can be used to manage agricultural and wetland drainage water flow and water quality; and

4. Institutions that coordinate and exchange information about actions and responses of regulators, operators, and other public and private entities, and long-term commitment by agencies to support real-time data collection and water quality forecasting efforts.

Improved Instream Flows

Background: High aquatic biodiversity, fish species and preferred riparian conditions depend on variable flow regimes that maintain active channels and floodplains and keep non-native species at bay. Determining the right combination of factors, such as timing of flows and biological and flood control needs, will maximize ecosystem benefits inways that are compatible with other uses of water and river corridors.

Focused Actions:

General Bay-Delta. *Develop an ecologically-based instream flow program.* Proposals to evaluate the timing of flows, reoperation of reservoirs, biological and ecological needs, flood control needs, hydrograph, hydrology, floodplain topography (with sufficient fine detail to address biological needs) should be developed. Flow needs can then be addressed comprehensively, both through acquisition and through reoperation.

General Bay-Delta. *Prioritize and evaluate potential water purchases.* In order for a water acquisition program to be successful, a process to identify biological priorities is needed. In coordination with CVPIA water acquisition program and Anadromous Fish Restoration Program, develop guidelines for water acquisition, a framework to prioritize purchases, and identify a small group to evaluate potential projects using the guidelines and framework.

Introduced Species

Background: Introduced species have had a significant impact throughout the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Studies have revealed a large number of exotic species that dominate habitats with number of species, number of individuals, biomass, and a high and acceleration rate of invasion. It is unclear, which species are affecting the Bay-Delta and exactly how they are affecting the Bay-Delta ecology and to what extent they can be eradicated or controlled effectively.

Focused Actions:

General Bay-Delta. *Further develop and implement an introduced species program.* Proposals should be for prevention, eradication, and control programs for introduced species which do not cause significant redirected impacts. Seek guidance from previous CALFED-

funded effort led by the Fish and Wildlife Service to prioritize introduced species actions and to select actions for funding in FY 99.

Improved Fish Management and Hatchery Operations

Background: There is a need to develop fishery management tools to better understand the relationship between hatchery raised salmon and steelhead and wild anadromous fish stocks. These tools would assist in the recovery of the fish stocks and could help maintain viable commercial and recreational fishing industries by reducing the conflicts. The production of hatchery-produced chinook salmon is constrained by the need to protect the sensitive wild stocks mixed with them.

Focused Actions:

General Bay-Delta. *Evaluate hatchery management and release operations to minimize threats to wild populations of anadromous fish.* Hatchery-produced fish may compete with or prey upon wild populations of anadromous fish. Yet hatchery-produced fish may be critical in maintaining viable populations of species through critical eventssuch as dry years. Proposals should be for the development of an integrated statewide hatchery management plan. This plan should be developed in cooperation with the hatchery managers and should include an outside assessment of existing practices.

(Add fish marking issue)

Environmental Education

Background: Education programs are important to develop a broader understanding at the individual and community level of natural resource conservation issues. In particular, increased public understanding of the CALFED Bay-Delta program will increase awareness of Bay-Delta issues and support for the Program's goals. Education programs should include all age groups in rural and urban populations.

Focused Actions:

There are no focused actions identified for this category. See Section 3.3 Other Beneficial Actions.

3.3 Other Beneficial Actions

This solicitation will consider proposals on both focused actions (Section 3.2) and other beneficial actions. It was recognized that other valuable projects and restoration opportunities could be lost by limiting the solicitation to only focused actions. Focused actions and other beneficial actions will receive equal consideration during the evaluation process. Any project which helps achieve objectives of this solicitation (Section 2.1) and which meets the criteria identified in Section 2.6 may be submitted for consideration. Other beneficial actions include other ERP and Strategic Plan actions, suggestions from the regional meetings, restoration projects where the first phase is underway, and other

restoration projects.

Fish Passage/Fish Screens. Additional fish passage and fish screen projects have the potential to benefit both the Sacramento and San Joaquin systems. Examples of these actions for fish passage include projects to improve passage with fish ladders or removal of barriers on streams such as Clear Creek, Mill Creek and the Yuba River, to improve flows in areas such as the Yolo Bypass, and improve drainage to reduce fish stranding on the lower American River Floodplain. Examples of actions for fish screens include an evaluation of the need to screen all diversions smaller that 100 cfs on both the mainstem of the Sacramento and selected tributaries.

River Geomorphology, Floodplain Management and Habitat Restoration. The dynamic processes of flow, sediment transport, channel erosion and deposition, establishment of riparian vegetation after floods and ecological succession create and maintain the natural channel and bank conditions favorable to salmon and other important species. Additionally, solutions for comprehensive flood management are essential to ensure public safety and restore natural, ecological functioning of river channels and floodplains. As discussed in the Strategic Plan, examples of projects could include areas with sediment deficits from in-channel mining, the parts of the system that still have or can have adequate flows to inundate floodplains and sufficient energy to erode and deposit, and floodplain and meander zone areas for acquisition or easements to permit natural flooding and channel migration.

Local Watershed Stewardship. Proposals should focus on the continued development and implementation of local watershed plans. Project applicants are expected to be, but are not limited to, Resource Conservation Districts, Watershed Conservancies, Watershed Councils, Coordinated Resource Management Programs, non-profit organizations, local governments, and others. Projects are expected to be, but are not limited to, plan development, watershed assessments, implementation of practices to protect and enhance water quality, riparian and habitat restoration, monitoring, technical assistance, and others. Examples of actions include development and implementation of comprehensive watershed plans on several Sacramento River tributaries such as Clear and Deer Creek.

Water Quality. Proposals should be vital components of early implementation of Water Quality Program Plan Actions to protect Bay-Delta Ecosystem resources.

Improved Instream Flows. Proposals for improved instream flows should focus on high priority areas. Examples of actions could include recommended augmentations on streams such as Deer Creek, Mill Creek, Butte Creek and Clear Creek.

Introduced Species. See description under Section 3.2 Focused Actions.

Improved Fish Management and Hatchery Operations. See description under Section 3.2 Focused Actions.

Environmental Education. Proposals should increase public awareness,

knowledge, and appreciation of natural resources and ecosystem restoration activities, foster active participation in conservation programs, or encourage individuals to wisely use natural resources. More specifically, programs should increase understanding of the CALFED Bay-Delta program and its activities.

CHAPTER IV - PREPARING A PROPOSAL APPLICATION

4.1 Minimum Requirements for all Applicants

All projects and programs must meet the following requirements, where applicable. These minimum requirements should be budgeted into each proposal, as necessary. Some of the minimum requirements listed below pertain to issues that applicants must address in their proposals, as described in more detail in Section 4.3.

Consistent with ERP and Strategic Plan Objectives. All proposals must be consistent with the CALFED ERP objectives and the Strategic Plan for Ecosystem Restoration. The ERP is a long-term ecosystem restoration program plan that will be implemented in phases over several decades. A copy of the ERP is contained as an Appendix to the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

Complies with Applicable Laws and Regulations. All proposals must comply with applicable laws and regulations, including National Environmental PolicyAct (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other environmental permitting requirements. Proposals may include in their budgets the funding necessary for compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, as described in Section 4.3. Recipients will be required to submit copies of NEPA/CEQA compliance documents upon their completion.

Does Not Prejudice the Ultimate Decision on the CALFED Long-term Program. CALFED is currently evaluating alternatives as part of the Programmatic EIS/EIR process. Programs and projects are not eligible for funding if they are determined to limit the choice of a reasonable range of alternatives, affect the selection of alternatives, or affect the selection of the preferred alternative. If applicants are interested in understanding if their proposal may conflict with any of the alternatives, they may obtain a copy of the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR by calling the CALFED Bay-Delta Program at (916) 657-2666 and requesting a copy, or by visiting the CALFED web site at: **http://calfed.ca.gov**. This document is also available at some local libraries. Ecosystem restoration actions that are considered to be common to all the proposed CALFED alternatives are not considered to be prejudicial to the ultimate decision. CALFED staff wil review proposals to identify potential conflicts between the proposals and the CALFED alternatives.

Notification of Local Government and Public Involvement. Notification and coordination with local entities is important to the success of any proposal. Applicants should indicate the level of public involvement and support for the proposed project. Local governments have expressed an interest in being informed of project applications in their respective counties. All applicants must provide a copy of a letter notifying the local County Board of Supervisors and County Planning Department of their intent to submit a proposal for a project located in their county. As applicable, applicant will also notify either the Delta Protection Commission or the Bay Area Conservation and Development Commission. Upon ending the period of confidentiality CALFED will notify the affected counties of the proposals being considered for funding.

Involves Only Willing Sellers or Landowners. Proposals that involve actions on private or public lands must provide satisfactory evidence that the landowner is a willing participant in the action. Acquisitions will occur only on a willing-seller basis and no land will be acquired through condemnation.

Limitations on Funding. Proposals cannot use funds to replace existing funding sources for on-going programs, for political advocacy, or for an applicant's litigation costs. Proposals that include projects or programs that are regulatory conditions or mitigation requirements for a prior project will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Cost Sharing. It is anticipated that many proposals will contain provisions for cost sharing. If cost sharing is anticipated, but the sources have not yet committed the funding, then the proposal should indicate the status and timing of the anticipated commitment. However, if an applicant fails to secure the cost share funds identified in the proposal, and as a result has insufficient funds to complete the project, the contracting agency has the option to amend or terminate the award.

4.2 Additional Requirements for Successful Proposals

Successful applicants will be expected to comply with the additional following requirements These requirements should be budgeted into each proposal, as necessary. Some of the requirements listed below pertain to issues that applicants must address in their proposals, as described in more detail in Section 4.3.

Work Commences Only When Funding Agreement Signed by Agency. Applicants with successful proposals should not commence work on their projects until a funding agreement is signed by the appropriate agency. Work performed by successful applicants prior to execution of a funding agreement is done at the applicant's own risk. Successful applicants should not expect reimbursement of monies spent prior to the signing of a funding agreement. Due to their complexity, the development of funding agreements may take considerable time.

Public Outreach and Local Involvement. Project applications should be developed with support and participation of affected parties. Applicants should prepare a plan which indicates how the public, adjoining property owners and local governments will be informed or be allowed to participate in the project planning and development.

Project Monitoring/Data Collection and Analysis. Successful applicants will be required to submit and comply with a Project Monitoring/Methods Plan, in order to show progress toward the intended ecological/biological objectives and to provide input to the adaptive management process of the CALFED program. The term monitoring is not restricted to pure restoration implementation activities, but includes all data collection projects such as with planning, research and education projects. While the emphasis of the monitoring methods plan is demonstration of local project effectiveness, the data collected will be used to evaluate system level progress.

The level of detail to be contained within the monitoring plan submitted during the proposed project will depend on the nature and status of the project, but all projects will need to provide monitoring information. A separate monitoring/methods plan maynot be necessary for some projects, such as a research project where the scope of work may serve as the monitoring/ methods plan. The plan needs to be developed prior to any data collection, including pre-project field work. The plan may be tentative in the early stages, dependent on early field surveys and evaluations. A feasibility study would present more general statements on methodology. As final designs are developed, so too would the project develop and present final details of the monitoring/data collection and analysis methodology. If existing data has or is going to be utilized, then summary/references are appropriate.

The successful applicant shall submit, at a minimum, annual monitoring reports presenting findings and addressing progress of the project toward the ecological and biological objectives. Data will be submitted in hard copy and in a specified electronic format, ina relational data base system compatible with MS Access. CALFED staff will work with successful proponents to ensure consistency of nomenclature and units.

Program Review Presentations. Successful applicants may be required to make oral presentations at annual review meetings. The purpose of the meetings will be to present project status, discuss working hypotheses and project data testing the hypotheses, discuss how projects are contributing to improved ecosystem health,and to share information among all the CALFED contract recipients.

Quarterly Reporting. Successful applicants will be required to submit quarterly reports due by the 10th day of the month following the end of each quarter. The information required to describe the financial status of the project includes: the amount invoiced to the contracting agency, the amount invoiced to cost share partners, a description of activities performed during the quarter, the percentage of each task completed, the deliverables produced, problems and delays encountered, and a description of any amendments or modifications to the contract. A sample quarterly report is included as Attachment *XX*.

Final Reporting. Successful applicants are required to submit a final report at the end of their project.

4.3 Proposal Format and Content

The following format and, as applicable, content requirements should be adhered to in order for proposals to be considered responsive to this PSP. Other information should be provided if the applicant believes it is necessary to address the evaluation criteria shown in Section 2.6. Page limitations for each section are shown and should not be exceeded. The proposal should be no more than 12 pages (not including the Title Page). Brief, concise yet thorough proposals under the page limitations are encouraged. The proposal submittal should be on 8 ½ x 11 size paper, with black and white text (no smaller than 12 point) and tables/graphics with text no smaller than 10 point. Submit maps,figures and/or photos as necessary to describe the complete context of the proposal. The maps,figures, and/or photos may be submitted in color but as a minimum are required to be reproducible via a black & white copier. The proposals should be stapled on the upper left hand corner. A sample proposal has been provided as Attachment F to assist applicants in the preparation of their

proposals.

Proposals should include, as a minimum, the following information:

I. Cover page indicating Topic for which proposal is being submitted, summary information, and certification (see Section 4.4).

II. Title Page (1 page)

a. Title of Project
b. Name, address, phone, FAX, e-mail of primary contact
c. Participants and collaborators
d. Type of Organization and Tax Status
e. Tax Identification Number and/or Contractor license, as applicable

III. Executive Summary (no more than 2 pages)

Briefly describe the project. Include information on the size (number of acres, miles of river, etc.) and location, primary biological/ecological objectives, cost, adverse and third party impacts, applicant qualifications, monitoring and data evaluation, local support/coordination with other programs and compatibility with CALFED objectives.

IV. Project Description (no more than 5 pages not including maps and/or figures)

a. Proposed Scope of Work

- Identify specific tasks, deliverables and phases for the project. Provide the schedule for each of these tasks and for the overall project. Please identify project management as an independent task. Clearly identify which tasks are considered to be inseparable if only a portion of the project were to be funded.

b. Location and/or Geographic Boundaries of the Project

- Identify the county (ies) where the project is located. Identify which watersheds are included. Provide either an original USGS quad map showing an outline of the project or provide geo-located data that can be used to enter the project into a GIS.

c. Ecological Objectives and Related Benefits

- Provide the primary ecological/biological objectives for the project Discuss the need for the project and a comparison of proposed approach with alternative and other similar approaches to achieve comparable objective(s). Summarize the basis for expected benefit(s). Identify the primary stressors, species, and/or habitats which are the focus of the project. Identify, and to the extent possible, quantify the expected benefits. Distinguish primary benefits from secondary benefits. Identify potential benefits to third parties, other ecosystem restoration programs, and CALFED non-ecosystem objectives.

- Identify the scientific hypothesis/question to be evaluated through the project. For example, for a fish passage project whose objective is to enhance migration and use of upstream habitat, it may be hypothesized that to reduce migration delays (which would increase early spawning), a new fish ladder is needed. The ladder would be used to improve access and thus enhance spawning success for the population.

- Explain the relationship to past and future project. Explain how this project relates to other previously funded projects, or to previously funded phases of this project. This includes CVPIA funding, CALFED funding, and other funding sources. Summarize the current status of the project and the progress and accomplishments of previous phases if applicable.

- Indicate the linkage to other future ERP actions and goals. Specify the ERP strategic objective and target (s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from December 1998 version of ERP Volume I and II. Explain how the project will help CALFED with its overall objectives.

- Explain how the project relates to any existing legal obligations or agency mandates.

- Discuss nature of and basis for durability of the benefit(s) resulting from implementation of the proposed project. Indicate why the project will be self sustaining. Identify how the project implements an ecosystem-based approach and follows an adaptive management framework.

d. Compatibility with Non-Ecosystem Objectives

- Explain whether the project provides benefits for, or conflicts with, other CALFED objectives including water quality, water supply reliability, and levee system integrity.

e. Monitoring and Data Collection Methodology

Monitoring and data collection is intended to clarify and link the project objectives with proponents' hypotheses/questions and with the specific methodologies to be used to collect and analyze data. The monitoring plans will generally need to include the following items:

- Project and Monitoring Objectives
  Include the primary biological/ecological objectives, questions to be answered, hypotheses, assumptions, conceptual framework/models, etc. As necessary, explain rationale and elaborate on important issues and/or limitations of the proposed approach, as compared to alternative approaches.

- Monitoring Approach and Design Methodology, with supportive rationale
  Include duration, frequency, type of equipment, personnel, constituents, locations, etc; provide references or copies of protocols being followed.

Discuss how this monitoring effort will be coordinated or integrated with other monitoring programs.

- Data Sampling Procedures
  Include number and type of samples, handling, preservation, storage, analytical techniques, data synthesis and analysis; provide references or copies of protocols being followed)

- Analysis and Reporting
  Include report frequency, content and format; evaluation approach, metadata, data management and format; etc. Explain how data has been used or is intended to be used, and evaluate existing data sources to support implementation/monitoring of the project. Explain how peer review will be used in the monitoring and data evaluation process.

- Provide, in summary format, the information in Table 1 below for each objective and related hypotheses/questions to be answered.

Table 1. Summary of Ecological/biological Objectives, Associated Hypotheses and Monitoring Parameters and Approaches.

I) Project Monitoring Objectives			
Monitoring Approach[1] and Design Methodology	Data Sampling Procedures	Analysis and Reporting	Comments

Notes: 1 - Indicate if monitoring will be performed in this phase or in subsequent phases of the project.

V. Technical Feasibility and Local Involvement (no more than 1 page)

a. Technical Feasibility and Timing

- Briefly explain other alternatives that were evaluated and why they were not selected.

- Identify CEQA, NEPA, and other environmental compliance documents that have or will be prepared for the project.

- Explain what permits or agreements need to be in place to proceed with any of the tasks described above under Scope of Work. Explain the current status of each permit or agreement. Explain any other constraints that could impact the schedule and implementability of the project.

- Identify the nature and approach to resolving other outstanding implementation issues.

b. Local Impacts, Support and Involvement

- Describe who at the county has been notified in writing of the project and whether or not they are supportive of the project.
- Identify which local groups including environmental groups, conservancies, CRMPs, or other interested organizations are aware of the project and their level of support or opposition.
- Identify which adjacent or affected landowners, facility owners, facility operators or other affected parties are aware of the project and if they are supportive or opposed.
- Describe a plan for public outreach to the groups listed above or to others who may be affected by the project.
- Identify any potential third party impacts.

VI. Applicant Qualifications (no more than 2 pages, not including tables)

- Describe the planned organization of staff and other resources to be used in implementing this project.
- Identify the nature and extent of other collaborating participants in the implementation of this project.
- Identify specific individual responsibilities covering technical, administrative and project management roles. Provide brief biosketches which identify the individual's qualifications as well as experience and performance on past related projects consistent with their proposed roles and responsibility (note: it is not necessary to provide letters of reference for similar projects).
- Disclose and discuss any potential conflicts of interest.
- If the applicant is an entity or organization, the applicant's signature on the cover sheet (Attachment H) certifies that the individual signing the application is authorized to do so on behalf of the organization or entity.

VII. Cost and Cost-Sharing (no more than 1 page not including tables)

- Identify the total budgeted costs requested from CALFED for each task listed in the Scope of Work broken down in the categories in Table 2.
- Identify the budget for each task on a quarterly basis using the format in Table 3. Quarters are October-December, January-March, April-June, and July-September.

Table 2. Sample Total Budget (CALFED funds only)

Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Service Contracts	Material and Acquisition Costs	Miscellaneous and other Direct Costs	Overhead and Indirect Costs	Total Cost
Task 1							
Task 2							
Project Management Task							

The Project Management Task description should describe the specific costs associated with insuring accomplishment of a specific project, such as inspection of work in progress, validation of costs, preparation of periodic reporting requirements, response to project specific questions and necessary costs directly associated with specific project oversight.

For overhead and indirect costs which exceed 25% of direct salary and benefits, provide a brief explanation of how it is calculated and what is included. Overhead should include costs associated with general office requirements such as rent, phones, furniture, general office staff, etc., normally distributed by a predetermined percentage (or surcharge) to specific other costs (often direct labor costs).

Table 3. Sample Quarterly Budget

Task	Quarterly Budget Jul-Sep 99	Quarterly Budget Oct-Dec 99	Quarterly Budget Jan-Mar 00	Quarterly Budget Apr-Jun 00	Quarterly Budget Jul-Sep 00	Total Budget
Task 1						
Task 2...						
Total						

- Identify other funding commitments, what the status of these commitments are (tentative approval, contract, etc.), source, and any cost-sharing requirements.
- Identify the potential to incrementally fund/implement the proposedscope of work.
- Identify the start/completion dates of specific tasks discussed above plus other key milestones (decisions, testing, etc.). Also identify how payments would relate to milestones, as applicable.

VIII. Compliance with standard terms and conditions (no more than one page not including forms)

- Submit both the State and Federal forms consistent with applicant type. (Funds

may be either State Proposition 204 or Federal Bay-Delta Act funds)

- Are the terms and conditions agreeable to and able to be complied with by the applicant? If not, specify those terms and conditions in which deviation is being requested. All applicants must include a completed Form DI-2010 with their proposal (see Attachment E).

Contract Requirements. Applicants will be required to comply with standard terms as described in Attachments D and E. Attachment D includes standard terms for projects funded by the State. Attachment E includes standard forms for projects funded by the Federal government (Department of Interior).

Note that terms and conditions may vary depending on the type of applicant and the type of project. Contract administration may be performed by CALFED, a CALFED member agency, or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), depending on the type of applicant and type of project.

Note that specific documents should be submitted with the proposal and are identified in Attachment D, Table D-1.

4.4 PSP Cover Sheets (Attach to the front of each proposal)

Proposal Title: _____
Applicant Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____

Amount of funding requested: $_____ for _____ years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

- ☐ Fish Passage/Fish Screens
- ☐ River Geomorphology/Floodplain/Restoration
- ☐ Local Watershed Stewardship
- ☐ Water Quality
- ☐ Improved Instream Flows
- ☐ Introduced Species
- ☐ Fish Management/Hatchery
- ☐ Environmental Education

Does the proposal address a specified Focused Action? _____ yes _____no

What county or counties is the project located in? _____
___

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

- ☐ Sacramento River Mainstem
- ☐ Sacramento Trib:_____
- ☐ San Joaquin River Mainstem
- ☐ San Joaquin Trib: _____
- ☐ Delta:_____
- ☐ East Side Trib: _____
- ☐ Suisun Marsh and Bay
- ☐ North Bay/South Bay:_____
- ☐ Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed)
- ☐ Other: _____

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check no more than two boxes):

- ☐ San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon
- ☐ Winter-run chinook salmon
- ☐ Late-fall run chinook salmon
- ☐ Delta smelt
- ☐ Splittail
- ☐ Green sturgeon
- ☐ Migratory birds
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Spring-run chinook salmon
- ☐ Fall-run chinook salmon
- ☐ Longfin smelt
- ☐ Steelhead trout
- ☐ Striped bass
- ☐ All anadromous salmonids

Specify the ERP strategic objective and target (s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from January 1999 version of ERP Volume I and II:

_____
_____
_____

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

☐ State agency	☐ Federal agency
☐ Public/Non-profit joint venture	☐ Non-profit
☐ Local government/district	☐ Private party
☐ University	☐ Other: _____

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

☐ Planning	☐ Implementation
☐ Monitoring	☐ Education
☐ Research	

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

1). The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;

2). The individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or organization); and

3). The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section 2.4) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

_____

Printed name of applicant

_____

Signature of applicant

E-030619

4.5 Proposal Completion Checklist

Once the applicant has prepared a proposal, CALFED staff suggest reviewing the following checklist to ensure that the proposal meets the requirements of this solicitation package and can be clearly understood by the technical review panels.

- ☐ Has the standard cover sheet (Section 4.4) been completed and attached to the front of the proposal? Is it signed?
- ☐ Have the page limitations for each section of the proposal been adhered to?
- ☐ Have the Minimum Requirements (Section 4.1) been addressed?
- ☐ Did you fill out the contract forms (Appendix C and D)?
- ☐ Is the hypothesis/question to be addressed by the proposal described clearly?
- ☐ Are the objectives of the proposal described clearly?
- ☐ Does the proposal show a clear link to the CALFED priority species and habitats?
- ☐ Does the proposal describe how the project meets ERP objectives and Strategic Plan goals?
- ☐ Does the proposal describe linkages to previously funded projects or previous phases?
- ☐ Does the proposal clearly lay out tasks, products, and timelines?
- ☐ Is the monitoring section clear and complete?
- ☐ Does the proposal contain a budget for each task?
- ☐ Has local involvement been described?